

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
White River Field Office
73544 Hwy 64
Meeker, CO 81641

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

NUMBER: CO-110-2006-001-EA

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER COC69306

PROJECT NAME: WREA 138 KV line to Shell

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Sixth Principal Meridian,
T. 1 S., R. 99 W.,
sec. 34, S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$,
sec. 35, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$

T. 2 S., R. 99 W.,
sec. 3, lots 3 and 4,
sec. 4, lots 1 and 2.

APPLICANT: White River Electric Association (WREA)

ISSUES AND CONCERNS 1. Cultural sites found in previous surveys
2. Mature tree/raptor concerns

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES:

Background/Introduction: Box Elder Gulch Route: This route traverses due east from the Ca Switchstation (Ca Oil Shale Lease) approximately 2,500' at which point the line angles sharply to drop down into Box Elder Gulch. From the angle structure in the bottom of Box Elder the line runs east-northeast 9,000' to the FWT Substation. This route was optimized by ground survey to minimize proximity to cultural resource sites on the ridge above Box Elder. It also has the minimum impact upon tree resources of the three alternatives considered (see alternatives not carried forward). The route requires two large angle structures to drop down into Box Elder Gulch that add cost and the route is about 500' longer than Alternative 1. This route is estimated to cost approximately \$50-75,000 more than Alternative 1. Access to Box Elder Gulch will be from a reclaimed road that runs along the bottom of the gulch and is adjacent to the proposed structure locations. The road will be reclaimed when construction is complete.

During the pre-application meeting, BLM staff requested a change from the original proposal (Alternative 1). The current route was selected as the overall preferred alternative due to fewer environmental impacts and only moderately higher costs.

Proposed Action: WREA proposes to construct an overhead 3-phase 138 KV powerline to provide electricity to the Shell Frontier research project. The line will begin at the existing WREA switch station located on private property near the old Ca tract in Corral Gulch, proceed eastward, and end at a new substation location on Shell fee lands. The line will be for year round use. WREA projects that there may be additional phases in the future for improving service and providing backup by connecting to the facilities serving the Piceance and Yellow Creek Basins, but there are no plans at this time.

Flagging and staking has been completed. Cultural and T&E Plant surveys have been completed as of date of application and a wildlife survey has been contracted. The route will total 2.2 miles with 1.3 miles on federal lands. Disturbed area would be approximately 15.758 acres. They request a 30 year term and would like to start construction 11/1/05 or as soon after that as authorization is issued. They plan on a schedule of 90 to 120 days, depending on weather, and a workforce of 6-8 employees using cranes and trucks.

The transmission line is designed for wood H-frame construction supporting aluminum hardware and wire. The H-frame structure has a 15' separation between phase conductors and provides protection from electrocution for raptors. This is a two-pole structure with one crossarm that results in the phase conductors being oriented in a horizontal configuration. This configuration minimizes the pole height for a given span and allows for longer spans than single pole structures with phase over phase construction. The result is longer spans and fewer, shorter structures than other designs. Structures placed at angles in the line will consist of three poles. The line will be built with 60-65 foot wooden poles, 40 poles, spaced at 800 to 1200 foot spans.

WREA originally requested a 200 foot right-of-way width. Their request for construction and operation of the 138kV transmission line was revised to be 100' wide for the entire length of the line (50 feet either side of centerline) with an additional 100' radius around all angle structures. The 100' radius provides additional room at the angle structures for anchors and guy wires. The 100' width requirement is based upon safety code clearances at the edge of the ROW so that other structures are not placed within the safety zone.

Structure sites and pole heights were chosen to minimize visual impacts where possible. As a result structure designs were selected and located to achieve a balance between a minimal number of structures and minimum average structure height. This resulted in an average pole height of 60-65 feet and an average distance between structures of about 800 feet. Where possible, structures were located to achieve spanning of canyons as opposed to locating structures in the bottom of a canyon crossing. Vehicular access was considered during structure site selection.

All structures have been located such that vehicle access with off road type equipment is possible for construction and subsequent maintenance. Access will be via overland travel from private property and the existing Airplane Ridge Road. No additional permanent roads are planned and

long term access will be only for necessary maintenance. The route will be cleared only as needed, generally along the center line. Where required, brush and tree removal will be accomplished with a Hydroax. Access development will not involve ground disturbance. A small off road crane is used to erect structures on the site. During construction, the contractor may determine that grading of an access road and/or leveling of a structure site is necessary for safe operation of equipment for access, framing, or raising the structure. This usually is a factor of steep slopes. However, on this project no grading of roads or structure sites is planned.

In areas of forestation, some tree trimming may be necessary between structures. Clear cutting of trees within the ROW is not proposed. However, taller trees can present a hazard to the conductors and a fire hazard to the area should they contact the conductor. These tall trees will be removed on a case by case basis after the conductors have been strung. A minimum of 10' clearance between the top of the tree and the conductors will be the criteria used for assessing the need to remove a tree. The conductors will have a minimum height above ground of approximately 30' so, in general, only trees taller than 20' would be candidates for removal. Due to terrain and attachment heights at structures, the conductors are usually well above the 30' minimum height, reducing further the potential for conflicts with trees in pinion/juniper forests.

An area with a radius of 50-75' around each structure will be cleared of brush and trees with a Hydroax to remove fuels thereby providing a buffer for fire suppression and to allow for framing of structures during construction. The clearing activities will not involve ground disturbance. Grasses and shrubs will be allowed to revegetate these areas after construction is complete. Some additional thinning or removal may be desirable for fuels reduction in the thickest growths of trees underneath the line. Intense fire directly beneath a conductor can result in irreparable damage to the wires and therefore, fuels reduction treatments are desirable as a fire mitigation tool in these isolated areas. These treatments will be accomplished in a mosaic pattern with an effort to minimize community fragmentation.

The holes for the poles are drilled with an auger. After placement of the structure, the dirt is mounded around the poles to accommodate settling. The dirt mound is typically 3 feet across and seeding is not needed for revegetation.

WREA will conduct routine inspections of the transmission line to insure safe operation. This will be accomplished via annual visual inspections, typically from a helicopter. Maintenance requirements are rare for transmission lines of this design and would be expected to be very infrequent. When maintenance is required it will typically require vehicular access to the structure as during construction.

Primary storage will be on private property with secondary storage within the proposed right-of-way near the Wolf Ridge Road. Framing pads will be within 50 feet of the structures (poles). Top soil will be removed and stored as needed. No Storm Water Management Plan is anticipated because of the minimal soil disturbance.

No Action Alternative: The proposed action would not be authorized and the powerline would not be built.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT NOT CARRIED FORWARD:

Discussion of Alternatives

Background - The Shell Freeze Wall Technology (FWT) project requires approximately 25,000-kW of electrical power. Power lines in the area of the project consist of 14.4-kV single phase distribution lines and 138kV transmission lines. Due to its length and small conductor the 14.4kV distribution line is capable of serving only about 500-kW of load and is currently loaded to its maximum capacity. Construction of a new three-phase distribution line would provide capacity to serve about 3-5,000-kW of load. The 138kV transmission line is the only practical option for providing the electrical power needs of the FWT project.

The closest existing 138kV transmission line source is located at the Ca Switchstation, approximately 2 miles east of the FWT site. All alternative routes investigated utilized the Ca Switchstation as the source for the transmission line to FWT. Our alternative route evaluations were guided by environmental and engineering assessments as follows:

Environmental – The transmission line should minimize known and potential impacts to flora, fauna and cultural resources in and around its location. This effort was guided by advice from local authorities on expected resources that would be found on each potential route. Detailed cultural, botanical and wildlife studies were then conducted on the preferred alternative. Reports have been submitted in support of this application.

Engineering – The assessment of engineering options for the transmission line considered safety, capital cost, maintenance and readily available materials. In regard to safety, the line design would be required to meet all applicable codes and standards for design, construction and operations. To minimize cost, it is desirable to select the shortest reasonable route and avoid angle structures where possible. Maintenance objectives included reasonable future access to structures and standard materials for which WREA maintains an inventory of spare parts.

The following alternatives were investigated as potential options for routing of the 138kV transmission line from the Ca Switchstation to Shell FWT.

Alternative 1: Ridge Top Route

Description: This alternative would traverse east-northeast from the Ca Switchstation along the ridge above Box Elder Gulch for approximately 8,000' and then turn due east crossing Box Elder Gulch 3,000' to the FWT Substation site.

Assessment: The route is the shortest of the three and minimizes the number of angle structures the combination of which would minimize construction cost. Access would be from the existing road with short overland access trails. However, this route crosses numerous identified cultural sites along the ridge and has sections of continuous tree coverage. The alternative was estimated to cost \$500,000, although any required mitigation of the cultural sites could increase cost substantially.

Alternative 2: Corral Gulch Route

Description: This alternative traverses east-northeast from the Ca Switchstation generally following the road for approximately 7,600' and then turns east following County Road 24 for 4,400' to the FWT Substation.

Assessment: This route crosses numerous identified cultural sites along the first 7,000' and has sections of continuous tree coverage. This is the longest route and would include numerous angle structures to follow closely the existing roads and avoid conflicts with existing buildings and distribution lines along County Road 24. The alternative has high potential for environmental impacts and is the highest cost of the three options. With the added length and additional angle structures construction costs were estimate to be \$200,000 greater than Alternative 1 without considering any environmental mitigation costs.

NEED FOR THE ACTION: The purpose of the action is to construct a power line to connect to the Shell Frontier Oil and Gas oil shale research site. Shell Frontier needs electrical service to proceed with its project. The line could also be a part of filling future needs for electrical service to the Yellow Creek and Piceance Basins.

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with the following plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3):

Name of Plan: White River Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP).

Date Approved: July 1, 1997

Decision Number/Page: Pages 2-49 thru 2-52

Decision Language: "To make public lands available for the siting of public and private facilities through the issuance of applicable land use authorizations, in a manner that provides for reasonable protection of other resource values."

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT / ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES / MITIGATION MEASURES:

STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC LAND HEALTH: In January 1997, Colorado Bureau of Land Management (BLM) approved the Standards for Public Land Health. These standards cover upland soils, riparian systems, plant and animal communities, threatened and endangered species, and water quality. Standards describe conditions needed to sustain public land health and relate to all uses of the public lands. Because a standard exists for these five categories, a finding must be made for each of them in an environmental analysis. These findings are located in specific elements listed below:

CRITICAL ELEMENTS

AIR QUALITY

Affected Environment: The proposed actions are not located within a thirty mile radius of any special designation air sheds or non-attainment areas. Construction of the power line will have little effect on air quality in the area.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Construction of power lines will result in only minor surface disturbances. Consequences to air quality will be minimal due to lack of exposed soils.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None

Mitigation: None

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Affected Environment: The proposed powerline route has been inventoried at the Class III (100% pedestrian) level (Conner and Davenport 2005, Compliance Dated 9/14/2005) with one previously recorded site located within the inventory corridor.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: If appropriate mitigation measures are implemented there should be no impacts to any known cultural resources.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no impacts to cultural resources under the No Action Alternative.

Mitigation: 1. Site 5RB 8 must be completely avoided by all construction activity and a cultural monitor shall be employed to ensure the site is avoided by all construction and maintenance related activities for the life of the project, unless the proponent chooses to undertake mitigation in accordance with an approved data recovery plan.

2. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing historic or archaeological sites, or for collecting artifacts. If historic or archaeological materials are uncovered during any project or construction activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities in the immediate area of the find that might further disturb such materials, and immediately contact the authorized officer (AO). Within five working days the AO will inform the operator as to:

- whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
- the mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not necessary)

- a timeframe for the AO to complete an expedited review under 36 CFR 800-11 to confirm, through the State Historic Preservation Officer, that the findings of the AO are correct and that mitigation is appropriate.

If the operator wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or the delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the operator will be responsible for mitigation cost. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume construction.

3. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g) the holder of this authorization must notify the AO, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), you must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the authorized officer.

INVASIVE, NON-NATIVE SPECIES

Affected Environment: The principle noxious/problem weed known to occur in the project area is bull thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*). The invasive alien cheatgrass is also present throughout the drainage primarily as a result of both past earthen, fire and grazing disturbance.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The proposed action will create some new areas of earthen disturbance which if they are revegetated, will not result in any long term negative impact.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There will be no change from the present situation.

Mitigation: Control /eradicate all noxious weeds and cheatgrass on all areas of earthen disturbance associated with the project using materials and methods approved in advance by the Authorized Officer.

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Affected Environment: An array of migratory birds fulfill nesting functions in the project area's, basin big sagebrush/greasewood and pinyon-juniper woodland communities from late May through early August. Species associated with these shrubland and woodland communities are typical and widely represented in the Resource Area and region. Those bird populations identified as having higher conservation interest (i.e., Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, Partners in Flight program) include Brewer's sparrow and green-tailed towhee in the shrubland types and juniper titmouse and black-throated gray warbler in the woodlands. These birds are well distributed at appropriate densities in this Resource Area's extensive like-habitats.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Project construction will be initiated in November, 2005 and is scheduled to be completed no later than February, 2006. This project, as scheduled, would be completed prior to the earliest nesting activity of migratory birds. Even with unanticipated project delays, this project would have no reasonable potential to disrupt the nesting activities of migratory birds.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no action authorized that would have potential to disrupt the breeding activities of migratory birds. Alternative actions considered but not carried forward would have similar or more substantive consequences as those finalized under the proposed action.

Mitigation: None

THREATENED, ENDANGERED, AND SENSITIVE ANIMAL SPECIES (includes a finding on Standard 4)

Affected Environment: There are no threatened, endangered or sensitive animal species that inhabit or derive important benefit from the project area.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: None

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None

Mitigation: None

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for Threatened & Endangered species: The proposed action would have no conceivable influence on populations or habitats associated with federally listed animals and would, therefore, have no potential to influence the status or application of applicable land health standards.

WASTES, HAZARDOUS OR SOLID

Affected Environment: There are no known hazardous or other solid wastes on the subject lands. No hazardous materials are known to have been used, stored or disposed of at sites included in the project area.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: No listed or extremely hazardous materials in excess of threshold quantities are proposed for use in this project. While commercial preparations of fuels and lubricants proposed for use may contain some hazardous constituents, they would be stored, used and transported in a manner consistent with applicable laws, and the generation of hazardous wastes would not be anticipated. Solid wastes would be properly disposed of.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: No hazardous or other solid wastes would be generated under the no-action alternative.

Mitigation: The applicant shall be required to collect and properly dispose of any solid wastes generated by the proposed actions.

WATER QUALITY, SURFACE AND GROUND (includes a finding on Standard 5)

Affected Environment: The proposed power line route is located within the Corral Gulch and Box Elder Gulch catchment areas. Both Corral Gulch and Box Elder Gulch are situated in stream segment 13b of the White River Basin. Stream segment 13b of the White River consists of the mainstem of Yellow Creek including all tributaries from the source to the confluence with the White River. A review of the Colorado's 1989 Nonpoint Source Assessment Report (plus updates), the 305(b) report, the 303(d) list and the Unified Watershed Assessment was done to see if any water quality concerns have been identified. The State has classified stream segment 13b of the White River Basin as "Use Protected" and further designated as beneficial for the following uses: Warm Aquatic Life 2, Recreation 2, and Agriculture. The antidegradation review requirements in the Antidegradation Rule are not applicable to waters designated use-protected. For those waters, only the protection specified in each reach will apply. For this reach, minimum standards for three parameters have been listed. These parameters are: dissolved oxygen = 5.0 mg/l, pH = 6.5 - 9.0, Fecal Coliform = 2000/100 ml, and 630/100 ml E. coli. It should be noted that Yellow Creek has been identified as a perennial stream NOT meeting water quality standards with regards to salinity and suspended sediment.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Soil compaction may occur in response to heavy equipment associated with power-line construction. Increased soil compaction will elevate potential for erosive overland flows which will increase sedimentation down gradient.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None

Mitigation: Soil compaction may be mitigated by minimizing the amount of utility vehicle traffic associated with power line construction activities.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for water quality: The White River Resource Area RMP has identified Yellow Creek as NOT meeting water quality standards for suspended sediment and salinity. However, due to the limited amount of surface disturbance associated with the proposed action, water quality in stream segment 13b will not be adversely impacted. Yellow Creek will continue to NOT meet water quality standards as identified in the White River Resource Area RMP.

WETLANDS AND RIPARIAN ZONES (includes a finding on Standard 2)

Affected Environment: There are no wetlands or riparian zones potentially influenced by the proposed action. The proposed power line is located along an incised, intermittent reach of Box Elder Creek which lacks adequate characteristics of riparian and wetland areas.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: None

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no action authorized that would influence the character of wetlands or riparian zones.

Mitigation: None

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for riparian systems: Development of this power line would have no conceivable influence on the condition or function of wetlands and riparian areas, and therefore would have no influence on continued maintenance of associated land health standards.

CRITICAL ELEMENTS NOT PRESENT OR NOT AFFECTED:

No ACEC's, flood plains, prime and unique farmlands, Wilderness, or Wild and Scenic Rivers, threatened, endangered or sensitive plants exist within the area affected by the proposed action. For threatened, endangered and sensitive plant species Public Land Health Standard is not applicable since neither the proposed nor the no-action alternative would have any influence on populations of, or habitats potentially occupied by, special status plants. There are also no Native American religious or environmental justice concerns associated with the proposed action.

NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS

The following elements **must** be addressed due to the involvement of Standards for Public Land Health:

SOILS (includes a finding on Standard 1)

Affected Environment: The following data is a product of an order III soil survey conducted by the NRCS in Rio Blanco County. The accompanying table highlights important soil characteristics. A complete summary of this information can be found at the White River Field Office.

CSU-1 "fragile" soils have been mapped along the first 0.21 miles of the last 0.52 miles (west portion of the line). However, after assessment of a topographic map it was determined that only the first 100 feet of the last 0.52 miles will be situated on slopes greater than 35% (CSU-1 "fragile soils") Controlled surface use stipulations will apply to this portion of the ROW.

Soil Number	Soil Name	Slope	Ecological site	Salinity	Run Off	Erosion Potential	Bedrock
36	Glendive fine sandy loam		Foothills Swale	2-4	Slow	Slight	>60
70	Redcreek-Rentsac complex	5-30%	PJ woodlands/PJ woodlands	<2	Very high	Moderate to high	10-20
73	Rentsac channery loam	5-50%	Pinyon-Juniper woodlands	<2	Rapid	Moderate to very high	10-20
75	Rentsac-Piceance complex	2-30%	PJ woodland/Rolling Loam	<2	Medium	Moderate to high	10-20
91	Torriorthents-Rock Outcrop complex	15-90%	Stoney Foothills		Rapid	Very high	10-20

36-Glendive fine sandy loam is a deep, well drained soil located along drainage ways on alluvial valley floors. It formed in alluvium. Slope is 2 to 4 percent. Elevation is 5,800 to 7,200 feet. The average annual precipitation is 14 to 17 inches. Typically, the surface layer is pale brown fine sandy loam 6 inches thick. The underlying material to a depth of 60 inches or more is very pale brown, stratified fine sandy loam that has thin lenses of loamy fine sand to sandy clay loam. The soil is calcareous throughout. In some areas the surface layer is channery fine sandy loam. Permeability of this Glendive soil is moderately rapid. Available water capacity is moderate. Effective rooting depth is 60 inches or more. Runoff is slow, and the hazard of water erosion is slight. The soil is subject to rare periods of flooding.

70-Redcreek-Rentsac complex (5 to 30 percent slopes) is found on mountainsides and ridges. The native vegetation is mainly pinyon and juniper trees with an understory of shrubs and grasses. Elevation is 6,000 to 7,400 feet. The average annual precipitation is 14 to 18 inches. Included in this unit are small areas of Forelle loam, Piceance fine sandy loam, and Yamac loam. Also included are small areas of Rock outcrop and soils that are similar to these Redcreek and Rentsac soils but are 20 to 40 inches deep to bedrock. Included areas make up about 10 percent of the total acreage. The percentage varies from one area to another. The Redcreek soil is shallow and well drained. It formed in residual and eolian material derived dominantly from sandstone. Typically, the surface layer is brown sandy loam about 4 inches thick. The next layer is brown, calcareous sandy loam about 7 inches thick. The underlying material is very pale brown, calcareous channery loam 5 inches thick. Hard sandstone is at a depth of 16 inches. Depth to hard sandstone or hard shale ranges from 10 to 20 inches. Permeability of the Redcreek soil is moderately rapid. Available water capacity is very low. Effective rooting depth is 10 to 20 inches. Runoff is medium, and the hazard of water erosion is moderate to high.

The Rentsac soil is shallow and well drained. It formed in residuum derived dominantly from sandstone. Typically, the upper part of the surface layer is grayish brown channery loam about 5 inches thick. The next layer is brown very channery loam about 4 inches thick. The underlying material is very pale brown extremely flaggy loam 7 inches thick. Hard sandstone is at a depth of 16 inches. Depth to hard sandstone or hard shale ranges from 10 to 20 inches.

Permeability of the Rentsac soil is moderately rapid. Available water capacity is very low. Effective rooting depth is 10 to 20 inches. Runoff is medium, and the hazard of water erosion is moderate to high.

73-Rentsac channery loam (5 to 50 percent slopes) is a shallow, well drained soil located on ridges, foothills, and side slopes. It formed in residuum derived dominantly from calcareous sandstone. The native vegetation is mainly pinyon, juniper, brush, and grasses. Elevation is 6,000 to 7,600 feet. The average annual precipitation is 14 to 18 inches. Typically, the surface layer is grayish brown channery loam about 5 inches thick. The next layer is very channery loam about 4 inches thick. The underlying material is extremely flaggy light loam 7 inches thick. Hard sandstone is at a depth of 16 inches. Depth to sandstone ranges from 10 to 20 inches. Permeability of this Rentsac soil is moderately rapid. Available water capacity is very low. Effective rooting depth is 10 to 20 inches. Runoff is rapid, and the hazard of water erosion is moderate to very high.

75-Rentsac-Piceance complex (2 to 30 percent slopes) is found on uplands, broad ridges, and foothills. The native vegetation is mainly sparse stands of pinyon and juniper and open areas of sagebrush. Elevation is 6,000 to 7,600 feet. The average annual precipitation is 14 to 18 inches. The Rentsac soil is shallow and well drained. It formed in residuum derived dominantly from sandstone. Typically, the surface layer is grayish brown channery loam about 5 inches thick. The next layer is brown, strongly calcareous very channery loam about 4 inches thick. The underlying material is very pale brown extremely flaggy light loam 7 inches thick. Hard sandstone is at a depth of 16 inches. Depth to sandstone ranges from 10 to 20 inches. In some areas the surface layer is flaggy loam. Permeability of the Rentsac soil is moderately rapid. Available water capacity is very low. Effective rooting depth is 10 to 20 inches. Runoff is medium, and the hazard of water erosion is moderate to high. The Piceance soil is moderately deep and well drained. It formed in eolian material and colluvium derived dominantly from sandstone. Typically, the surface layer is brown fine sandy loam 4 inches thick. The upper 5 inches of the subsoil is brown loam, and the lower 13 inches is light yellowish brown loam. The substratum is very pale brown channery light loam 8 inches thick. Hard sandstone is at a depth of 30 inches. Depth to sandstone or hard shale ranges from 20 to 40 inches. In some areas the surface layer is loam or sandy loam. Permeability of the Piceance soil is moderate. Available water capacity is low. Effective rooting depth is 20 to 40 inches. Runoff is slow to medium, and the hazard of water erosion is slight to moderate.

91-Torriorthents-Rock outcrop complex (15 to 90 percent slopes) is found on extremely rough and eroded areas on mountains, hills, ridges, and canyon sides. Slopes mainly face south. The native vegetation is mainly sparse shrubs and grasses with some pinyon and juniper trees. Elevation is 5,100 to 7,500 feet. The average annual precipitation is 8 to 18 inches. Torriorthents are very shallow to moderately deep and are well drained and somewhat excessively drained. They formed in residuum and colluvium derived dominantly from sandstone, shale, limestone, and siltstone. No single profile of Torriorthents is typical, but one commonly observed in the survey area has a surface layer of pale brown channery loam about 3 inches thick. The underlying material is very pale brown channery loam, very channery loam, or fine sandy loam about 13 inches thick. Shale or sandstone is at a depth of 16 inches. Torriorthents are calcareous throughout. In some areas the surface layer is stony or flaggy.

Permeability of the Torriorthents is moderate. Available water capacity is very low. Effective rooting depth is 10 to 20 inches. Runoff is very rapid, and the hazard of water erosion is very high. Rock outcrop consists of barren escarpments, ridge caps, and points of sandstone, shale, limestone, or siltstone. The escarpments are 3 to 50 feet thick and 25 to 2,500 feet long.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Given the calcareous nature of the affected soils, dissolution of calcium carbonate may cause soil piping and gully formation if soils are further exposed to erosional processes. Construction of the proposed power-line may result in increased soil compaction which will reduce infiltration and permeability rates increasing the erosive potential of overland flows.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None

Mitigation: Power poles should be situated to span CSU-1 “fragile soils”. Utility truck traffic should be kept to a minimum to reduce the potential impacts of soil compaction.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for upland soils: At the present time, soils in the vicinity of the proposed action exhibit infiltration and permeability rates that are appropriate to soil type, landform, climate, and geologic processes. Following power-line construction, soils will continue to meet standards.

VEGETATION (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment: The proposed pipeline route traverses pinyon juniper woodland on the ridge and when it drops down into Boxelder crosses basin big sagebrush/greasewood with a grass understory. The corresponding ecological site is Foothill Swale.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The proposed action will create a unquantified (probably less than .5 acres) of soil disturbance. If this disturbance is revegetated there will be no significant negative impact on vegetation.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There will be no change from the present situation.

Mitigation: Immediately after construction revegetate all areas of earthen disturbance with Native Seed mix # 5.

5	Basin Wildrye (Magnar, Trailhead)	2	Foothill Swale, Sandy Swale, Swale Meadow
	Western wheatgrass (Rosanna, Arriba)	3	
	Bluebunch wheatgrass (Secar)	1	
	Thickspike wheatgrass (Critana)	2	
	Fourwing saltbush (Wytana)	1	
	Alternatives: Utah sweetvetch, globemallow		

Drill seeding is the preferred method of application. If seed is broadcast, double the seeding rate and harrow or rake to insure soil coverage of seed.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Wildlife, Aquatic and Wildlife, Terrestrial): Plant communities in the project area currently meet the Standard and are expected to continue to meet the Standard following completion of this project.

WILDLIFE, AQUATIC (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment: There are no BLM-administered aquatic communities within the project area.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The proposed action involves minimal surface disturbance and therefore would have no influence on aquatic wildlife or habitat.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no effect on existing aquatic wildlife or habitat under the no action alternative.

Mitigation: None.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Vegetation and Wildlife, Terrestrial): Development of this power line would have no conceivable influence on the condition or function of aquatic habitats or wildlife associated with them, and therefore, would have no influence on continued maintenance of associated land health standards.

WILDLIFE, TERRESTRIAL (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment: The project area is characterized by sagebrush shrublands and pinyon-juniper woodlands. The proposed powerline is encompassed by big game general winter range, which is typically used from late-September through January and again during April and May. Surveys conducted during October 2005 indicated light use by big game.

Field surveys of mature pinyon-juniper woodlands, cliffs and rock outcrops were conducted during October within a ¼ to ½ mile radius of the proposed route. No nests were located nor were any raptors observed. Nongame bird communities within the area are representative of big sagebrush shrublands and xeric pinyon-juniper woodlands with no apparent deficiencies in composition or abundance.

Small mammal populations are poorly documented, however, the 14 or so species that are likely to occur in this area display broad ecological tolerance and are widely distributed throughout the Great Basin and/or Rocky Mountain regions. No narrowly distributed or highly specialized species or subspecific populations are known within the project area.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Short-term effects to local big game may include displacement of individuals during powerline installation; however, no long-

term effects to seasonal distribution or movement are expected. Reduction in the herbaceous and woody forage base for big game would be discountable. Similarly, the loss of forage and cover for non-game animals would be negligible at the local scale.

Construction of the powerline will take place during the fall and winter months, well outside the timeframe for raptor nesting activities. Removal of large trees will not be necessary unless safety hazards are identified (e.g., contact with conductors) and will be considered on a site-specific basis.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no action authorized that would influence local habitat character or animal populations.

Mitigation: 1. The project area should be re-surveyed if construction activities are delayed until March 2006 or later.

2. All powerpoles involved in this action will be designed to deter all raptor perching (i.e., crossarms and pole top) and remain effective in preventing raptor electrocution.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Vegetation and Wildlife, Aquatic): The project area meets the public land health standards for terrestrial animal communities. As conditioned (see mitigation), the proposed action and no-action alternatives would have negligible short and long term influence on the utility or function of big game, raptor, or nongame habitats in the vicinity of these sites.

OTHER NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS: For the following elements, only those brought forward for analysis will be addressed further.

Non-Critical Element	NA or Not Present	Applicable or Present, No Impact	Applicable & Present and Brought Forward for Analysis
Access and Transportation			X
Cadastral Survey	X		
Fire Management			X
Forest Management		X	
Geology and Minerals	X		
Hydrology/Water Rights	X		
Law Enforcement		X	
Noise		X	
Paleontology			X
Rangeland Management		X	
Realty Authorizations			X
Recreation			
Socio-Economics		X	
Visual Resources			X
Wild Horses			X

ACCESS AND TRANSPORTATION

Affected Environment: At present no road, trail, or route is located in the proposed right-of-way. The proposed action is located in an area where cross-country motorized travel is permitted from May 1 through September 30 of each year. The remainder of the year motorized travel is limited to existing routes.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: If the powerline right-of-way route is discernible to casual viewers, it will more than likely be utilized by motorized vehicles. Continued motorized vehicle use of right-of-way may eventually lead to the creation of a new unmaintained off-highway vehicle route.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None.

Mitigation: Remove as little vegetation from right-of-way as possible to dissuade OHV use.

FIRE MANAGEMENT

Affected Environment: The proposed action falls within the C6 Lower Piceance Basin and B6 Yellow Creek Fire management polygons. The B6 polygon is an area where unplanned wildland fire is not desired and fire suppression in these areas will be aggressive, the C6 polygon is an area where fire is desired but there are constraints that must be considered in this case industrial infrastructure. The proposed action will not change the way these polygons are currently managed.

Rio Blanco County (RBC) through their Strategic Emergency/Disaster Management Program determined that electrical lines servicing mining, industrial, and oil and gas facilities had the most significant exposure to wildland fire hazard within the county. Therefore powerline protection is a high priority in their Strategic Wildland Fire Management Program (RBC 2003, Rio Blanco County, Colorado; Strategic Wildland Fire Hazard Management Program).

The route proposed for the powerline goes through Basin Big Sagebrush/greasewood in the Coral Gulch and Box Elder drainages and small patches of moderate to low density pinion juniper woodland with moderate dead and down component averaging approximately 8 tons per acre on the uplands.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Fire occurring within proximity of the powerline could threaten the powerline particularly in Coral Gulch. Basin Big Sagebrush and pinion/juniper are very volatile fuels that when burning under environmental conditions when a wildfire can be expected moves extremely quickly. These fuels have a very rapid rate of spread with flame lengths up to 100 feet and release very intense heat that will threaten the powerline and wooden pole structures. The proposed powerline would also create a significant

safety hazard for firefighters. Fire and dense smoke are conductors of electricity. Electrical current can be transmitted through flame lengths and dense smoke which is highly dangerous for firefighters who may have to suppress wildfire underneath or around the line.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no threat from wildfire to industrial infrastructure. There would also be no additional threat to firefighter safety when called upon to suppress a wildfire in the vicinity of the proposed action.

Mitigation: Impacts related to wildland fire management have been addressed in the proposed action with the exception of long term fuels maintenance. Traditionally fuels beneath powerlines has been cut and left in place on the right-of-way. Any woody vegetation, live or dead, that is removed should either be chipped, hauled off site, or lopped into small 24" pieces and scattered well away from the line to eliminate any heavy fuel loading underneath the line.

PALEONTOLOGY

Affected Environment: Most of the power line route is located in what appears to be alluvial bottoms which are generally mapped as Quaternary alluviums (Tweto 1979) which are not generally considered to be fossiliferous. The western portion of the line, before it descends into Corral Gulch is located in an area generally mapped as the Uinta Formation (Tweto 1979) which the BLM has classified as a Condition I formation, meaning it is known to produce scientifically important fossil resources.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: If it should become necessary to excavate into the underlying rock formation for anything other than the tower placement holes there is a potential to impact scientifically important fossil resources. Drilling the footer holes for the towers also has the potential to impact fossil resources however, identifying the resource, mapping it and mitigating it is extremely difficult if not impossible given the nature of the excavations.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no new impacts to fossil resources under the No Action Alternative.

Mitigation: 1. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing paleontological sites, or for collecting fossils. If fossil materials are uncovered during any project or construction activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities in the immediate area of the find that might further disturb such materials, and immediately contact the authorized officer (AO). Within five working days the AO will inform the operator as to:

- whether the materials appear to be of noteworthy scientific interest
- the mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not feasible)

If the operator wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or

the delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the operator will be responsible for mitigation cost. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume construction.

2. Should it be necessary to excavate into bedrock over a large area, i.e. larger than 10 feet by 10 feet then a paleontological monitor shall be present prior to the initiation of any such excavation into the underlying rock formation.

REALTY AUTHORIZATIONS

Affected Environment: The route crosses approximately 1.53 miles of public lands. Both the source and terminus of the power line lie north of the Park Canyon-Magnolia Utility Corridor and west of the Hwy 64 – Ryan Gulch Utility Corridor.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The power line route will require a right-of-way authorization, which will be issued as COC69306. Part of the route falls within privately held lands.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: If the power line is not authorized, there would be no additional impact.

Mitigation: White River Electric should obtain appropriate permissions from the private land owners. Colorado One Call procedure should be initiated before earth moving activities. Construction must not interfere with existing linear rights-of-way.

RECREATION

Affected Environment: The proposed action occurs within the White River Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA). BLM custodially manages the ERMA to provide for unstructured recreation activities such as hunting, dispersed camping, hiking, horseback riding, wildlife viewing and off-highway vehicle use.

Approximately 1.3 miles of the right-of-way has been delineated a Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) class of Roaded Natural (RN). RN physical and social recreation setting may have modifications which range from being easily noticed to strongly dominant to observers within the area. However, from sensitive travel routes and use areas these alterations would remain unnoticed or visually subordinate. There is strong evidence of designed roads and/or highways. Structures are generally scattered, remaining visually subordinate or unnoticed to the sensitive travel route observer. Structures may include utility corridors, microwave installations and so on. Frequency of contact is moderate to high on roads and low to moderate on trails and away from roads. RN recreation experience is characterized by a moderate probability of

isolation from the sights and sounds of humans that offers an environment that offers challenge and risk.

Approximately .2 miles of the right-of-way delineated a Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) class of Rural (R). Rural physical and social recreation setting is culturally modified to the point that it is dominant to the sensitive travel route observer. This may include pastoral, agricultural, intensively managed wildland resource landscapes, or utility corridors. Pedestrian or other slow moving observers are constantly within view of culturally changed landscape. There is strong evidence of designed roads and/or highways. Structures are readily apparent and may range from scattered to small dominant clusters including utility corridors, farm buildings, microwave installations, and recreation sites. Frequency of contact is moderate to high at developed sites and on roads and trails; moderate away from developed sites. Rural recreation experience is characterized by a low probability of isolation from the sights and sounds of humans.

In addition, the proposed right-of-way is adjacent to and is servicing an industrially modified location.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: If construction of the proposed action coincides with hunting seasons (September through November) it will most likely disrupt the experience sought by those recreationists.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: No loss of dispersed recreation potential and no impact to hunting recreationists.

Mitigation: None.

VISUAL RESOURCES

Affected Environment: The proposed action would be located in an area with a VRM III classification. The objective of this class is to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be moderate. Management activities may attract attention but should not dominate the view of the casual observer. Changes should repeat the basic elements found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The proposed action would be located on private lands and BLM surface in a remote area that would be visible only for a brief period of time to a casual observer that would be traveling along county road 24. Traffic on this route would consist primarily of energy related services and hunters during fall big game seasons. The proposed action involves low support structures and long expanses between structures to minimize visual impacts. The level of change to the surrounding characteristic landscape would be less than moderate and the objectives of the VRM III classification would be retained.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no environmental consequences.

Mitigation: None

WILD HORSES

Affected Environment: The proposed action is located in the Box Elder vicinity of the Piceance East Douglas Wild Horse Herd Management Area (HMA). The area proposed for disturbance is a combination of sagebrush shrubland and pinjon juniper woodland. Resident bands of wild horses inhabit this portion of the HMA throughout the year. The horses graze the sagebrush meadows and move into the pinjon juniper for protection from the elements.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The proposed action could result in the short-term displacement of resident horse bands during project installation. No long-term effect of the proposed action on distribution or normal drift/movement is expected to occur. Construction is planned for completion prior to the critical foaling season recognized between March 1 and June 15th each year.

The project will result in the loss of approximately 15.8 acres of habitat.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: The planned action would not occur. There would be no disturbance to wild horses and no loss of habitat.

Mitigation: none

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS SUMMARY: This action is consistent with the scope of impacts addressed in the White River ROD/RMP. The cumulative impacts of these activities are addressed in the White River ROD/RMP for each resource value that would be affected by the proposed action.

REFERENCES CITED:

Conner, Carl E. and Barbara Davenport

- 2005 Class III Cultural Resource Inventory Report for A Proposed 11,400-Foot Transmission Line Route in the Corral Gulch Area of Rio Blanco County, Colorado for White River Electric Association. Grand River Institute, Grand Junction, Colorado.

Tweto, Ogden

- 1979 Geologic Map of Colorado. United States Geologic Survey, Department of the Interior, Reston, Virginia.

PERSONS / AGENCIES CONSULTED: None

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

Name	Title	Area of Responsibility
Nate Dieterich	Hydrologist	Air Quality
Tamara Meagley	Natural Resource Specialist	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
Tamara Meagley	Natural Resource Specialist	Threatened and Endangered Plant Species
Michael Selle	Archeologist	Cultural Resources Paleontological Resources
Mark Hafkenchiel	Rangeland Management Specialist	Invasive, Non-Native Species, Rangeland Management, Vegetation
Lisa Belmonte	Wildlife Biologist	Migratory Birds
Lisa Belmonte	Wildlife Biologist	Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Animal Species, Wildlife
Linda Jones	Realty Specialist	Wastes, Hazardous or Solid
Nate Dieterich	Hydrologist	Water Quality, Surface and Ground Hydrology and Water Rights
Lisa Belmonte		Wetlands and Riparian Zones
Chris Ham	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Wilderness
Nate Dieterich	Hydrologist	Soils
Lisa Belmonte	Wildlife Biologist	Wildlife Terrestrial and Aquatic
Chris Ham	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Access and Transportation
Ken Holsinger	Natural Resource Specialist	Fire Management
Robert Fowler	Forester	Forest Management
Paul Daggett	Mining Engineer	Geology and Minerals
Linda Jones	Realty Specialist	Realty Authorizations
Chris Ham	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Recreation
Keith Whitaker	Natural Resource Specialist	Visual Resources
Valerie Dobrich	Natural Resource Specialist	Wild Horses

Finding of No Significant Impact/Decision Record (FONSI/DR)

CO-110-2006-001-EA

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)/RATIONALE: The environmental assessment and analyzing the environmental effects of the proposed action have been reviewed. The approved mitigation measures (listed below) result in a Finding of No Significant Impact on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not necessary to further analyze the environmental effects of the proposed action.

DECISION/RATIONALE: It is my decision to approve the construction, operation, maintenance, and termination of a 138 KV electrical transmission line as described in the proposed action, with the mitigation measures listed below. This development, with mitigation, is consistent with the decisions in the White River ROD/RMP, and environmental impacts will be minimal.

MITIGATION MEASURES:

1. Site 5RB 8 must be completely avoided by all construction activity and a cultural monitor shall be employed to ensure the site is avoided by all construction and maintenance related activities for the life of the project, unless the proponent chooses to undertake mitigation in accordance with an approved data recovery plan.

2. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing **historic or archaeological sites**, or for collecting artifacts. If historic or archaeological materials are uncovered during any project or construction activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities in the immediate area of the find that might further disturb such materials, and immediately contact the authorized officer (AO). Within five working days the AO will inform the operator as to:

- whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
- the mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not necessary)
- a timeframe for the AO to complete an expedited review under 36 CFR 800-11 to confirm, through the State Historic Preservation Officer, that the findings of the AO are correct and that mitigation is appropriate.

If the operator wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or the delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the operator

will be responsible for mitigation cost. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume construction.

3. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g) the holder of this authorization must notify the AO, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), you must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the authorized officer.

4. Operator shall control /eradicate all noxious weeds and cheatgrass on all areas of earthen disturbance associated with the project using materials and methods approved in advance by the Authorized Officer.

5. The applicant shall be required to collect and properly dispose of any solid wastes generated by the proposed actions.

6. Power poles shall be situated to span CSU-1 “fragile soils”. Utility truck traffic associated with power line construction activities shall be kept to a minimum to reduce the potential impacts of soil compaction.

7. Immediately after construction, revegetate all areas of earthen disturbance with Native Seed mix # 5. Drill seeding is the preferred method of application. If seed is broadcast, double the seeding rate and harrow or rake to insure soil coverage of seed. Applicant must provide seed tags to the authorized officer within 30 days after seeding.

Seed Mix #	Species (Variety)	Lbs. PLS per Acre	Ecological Sites
5	Basin Wildrye (Magnar, Trailhead)	2	Foothill Swale, Sandy Swale, Swale Meadow
	Western wheatgrass (Rosanna, Arriba)	3	
	Bluebunch wheatgrass (Secar)	1	
	Thickspike wheatgrass (Critana)	2	
	Fourwing saltbush (Wytana)	1	
	Alternatives: Utah sweetvetch, globemallow		

8. If construction activities are delayed until March 2006 or later, the project area shall be re-surveyed for raptors.

9. All power poles involved in this action will be designed to deter all raptor perching (i.e., crossarms and pole top) and remain effective in preventing raptor electrocution.

10. Impacts related to wildland fire management have been addressed in the proposed action with the exception of long term fuels maintenance. Traditionally, fuels beneath power lines has been cut and left in place on the right-of-way. Any woody vegetation, live or dead, that is

removed shall either be chipped, hauled off site, or lopped into small 24" pieces and scattered well away from the line to eliminate any heavy fuel loading underneath the line.

11. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing **paleontological sites**, or for **collecting fossils**. If fossil materials are uncovered during any project or construction activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities in the immediate area of the find that might further disturb such materials, and immediately contact the authorized officer (AO). Within five working days the AO will inform the operator as to:

- whether the materials appear to be of noteworthy scientific interest
- the mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not feasible).

If the operator wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or the delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the operator will be responsible for mitigation cost. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume construction.

12. Should it be necessary to excavate into bedrock over a large area, i.e. larger than 10 feet by 10 feet then a paleontological monitor shall be present prior to the initiation of any such excavation into the underlying rock formation.

13. White River Electric shall obtain appropriate permissions from the private land owners. Colorado One Call procedure should be initiated before earth moving activities. Construction must not interfere with existing linear rights-of-way.

14. Operator shall remove as little vegetation from right-of-way as possible to dissuade OHV use.

COMPLIANCE/MONITORING: Compliance monitoring shall be performed every five years by the White River Field Office staff.

NAME OF PREPARER: Linda Jones

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Caroline Hollowed

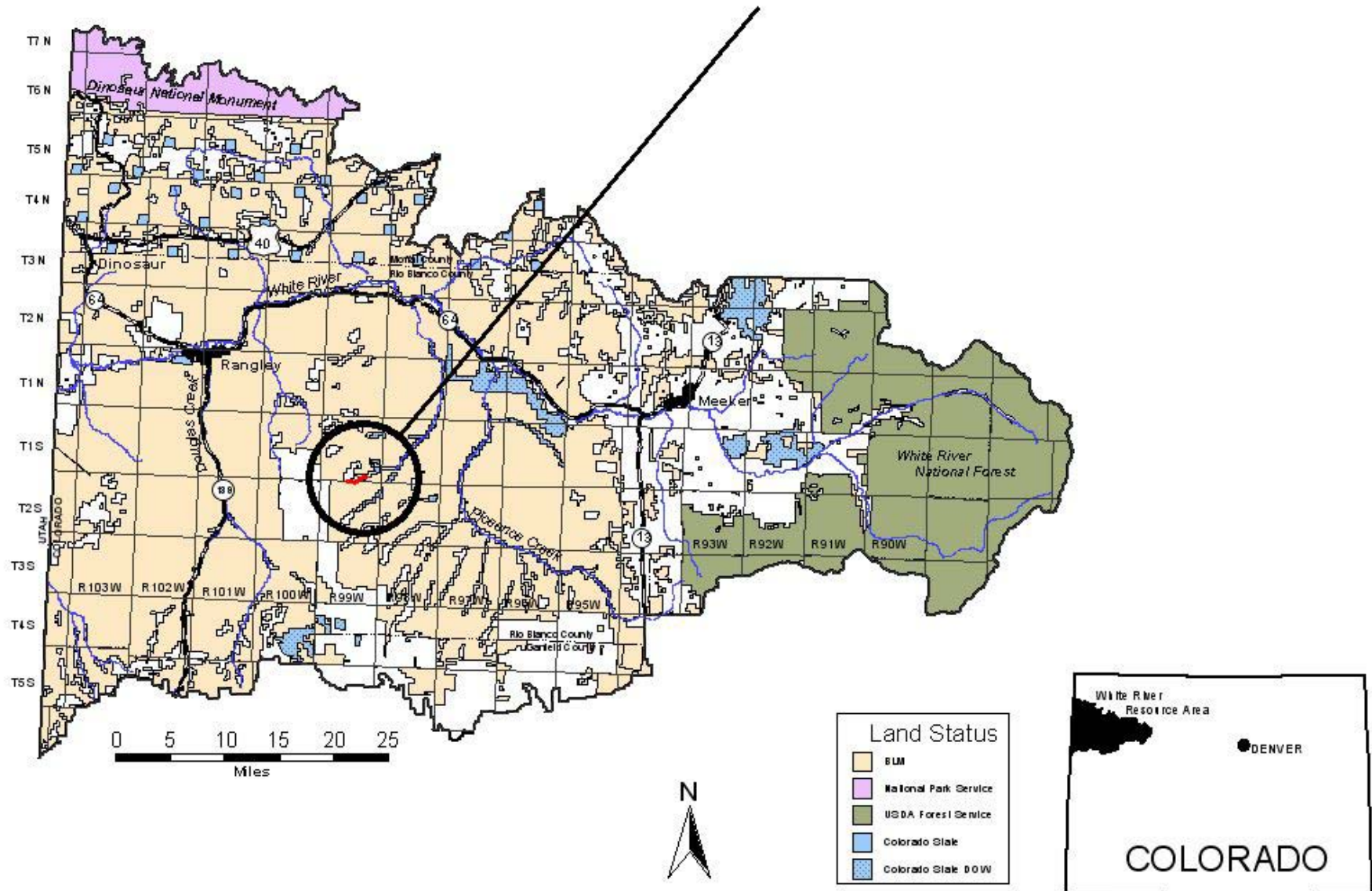
SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:

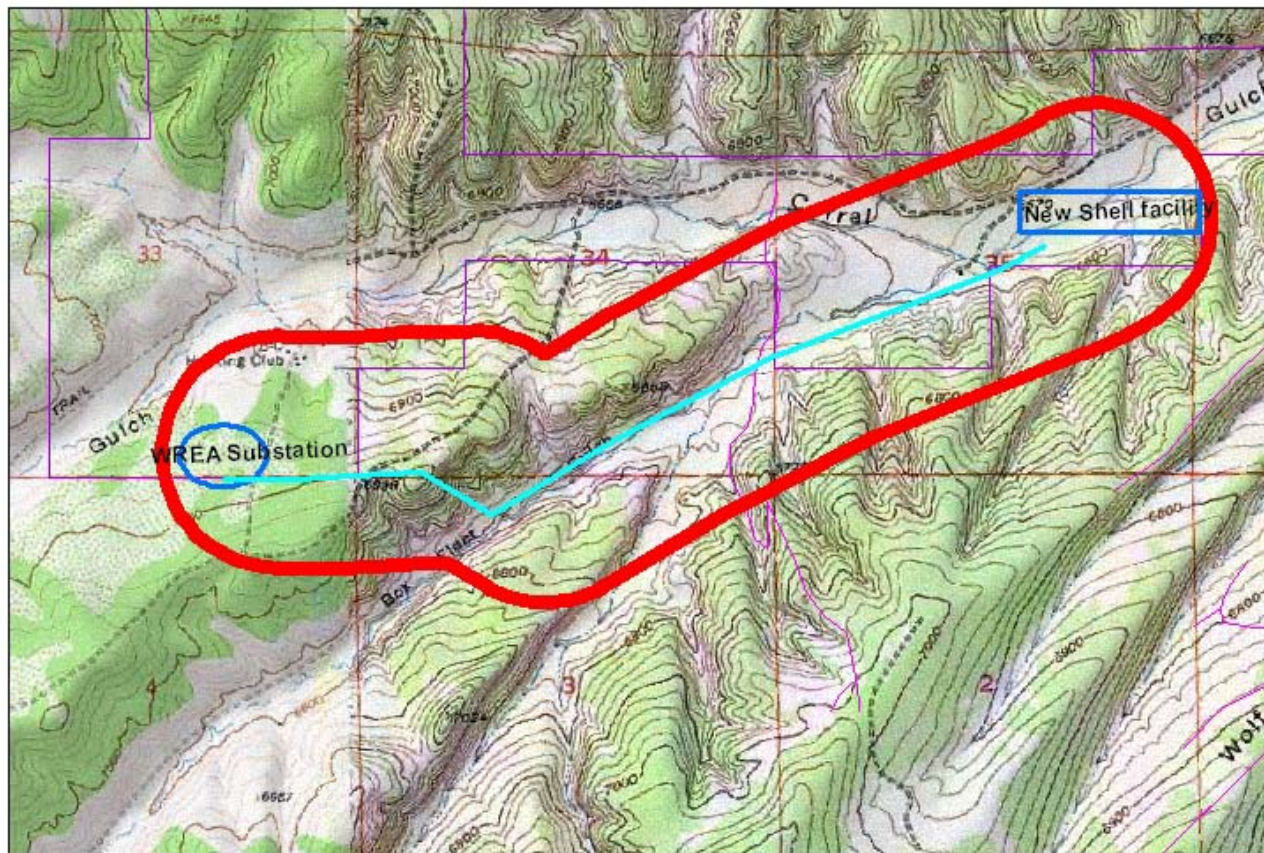
Frank J. Paine
for Field Manager

DATE SIGNED: 11/10/05

ATTACHMENTS: General Location Map of the Proposed Action
Exhibit A-1 map of general area
Exhibit A-2 map of project area

Location of Proposed Action CO-110-2006-001-EA





Legend

- BLM
- FOR
- NPS_DNM
- PRI
- STA_CDOW
- STA_LB
- Projects: line
- Field office boundary

WREA 138kv to Shell

CO-110-06-01-EA COC69306
6PM T1S R99W sec 34,35 T2S R99W sec 3,4

1:24000

